

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CARACA 01094 012124Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----122083 012128Z /72

O 012103Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 991
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T CARACAS 1094

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: ZGDS-4
TAGS: SREF PINR VE US PL
SUBJECT: POLISH ASYLUM SEEKER

REF: CARACAS 1070

1. WE WISH TO BRING TO DEPARTMENT'S ATTENTION A POTENTIAL COMPLICATION IN THIS CASE. HABDAS TOLD POLCOUNS THAT HE HAS AGREED TO SELL HIS CAR TO A VENEZUELAN CITIZEN OF POLISH ORIGIN. HABDAS SAID THAT HE HAD ALREADY ACCEPTED BS 5,000 (A LITTLE OVER \$1,000) FROM THE PURCHASER, BUT THE PURCHASER TOLD HIM THAT HE WOULD NOT HAVE THE REST OF THE MONEY UNTIL THE END OF FEBRUARY (JUST BEFORE HABDAS IS OFFICIALLY SCHEDULED FOR DEPARTURE). HABDAS SAID THAT IF HE WERE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY IMMEDIATELY THE PROSPECTIVE BUYER MIGHT ALLEGE THAT HABDAS OWED HIM BS 5,000 (HABDAS HAS ALREADY SPENT THE MONEY). HABDAS HAS RECEIVED PERMISSION FROM THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT TO SELL THE CAR. NONETHELESS, IT SEEMS TO US THAT IF HE WERE TO LEAVE PRECIPITATELY, THE PROSPECTIVE OWNER MIGHT, EITHER ON HIS OWN OR AT THE REQUEST OF THE POLISH EMBASSY, CHARGE THAT HABDAS OWED HIM BS 5,000. WE BELIEVE

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FURTHER THAT THE POLISH EMBASSY WOULD PROBABLY SEEK TO USE THIS COMPLICATION TO DELAY HABDAS' DEPARTURE.

2. EMBASSY ALSO NOTES THAT THE UPCOMING VISIT OF THE POLISH FOREIGN MINISTER WILL MAKE THE GOV EVEN MORE SENSITIVE THAN USUAL

3. IF HABDAS TELEPHONES POLCOUNS EVENING FEBRUARY 1,
POLCOUNS WILL TELL HIM DO WHATEVER HE CAN TO
CLEAR UP THE BS 5,000 DEBT PRIOR TO DEPARTURE EVEN
IF THIS MEANS SIMPLY TURNING THE CAR OVER TO THE
PROSPECTIVE BUYER WITHOUT MUCH HOPE OF RECEIVING
THE REST OF THE PAYMENT. FYI: THIS WILL BE
DIFFICULT FOR HABDAS BECAUSE HE FEARS THE PURCHASER
WOULD REPORT ANY UNUSUAL MOVES BY HABDAS TO THE
POLISH EMBASSY. END FYI.
VAKY

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NNN

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